

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1-22 were rejected. With this Amendment, claims 1, 11, 20 and 22 are amended. Accordingly, claims 1-22 remain at issue in the above-identified application.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Anticipation Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Musgrave et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,505,193). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

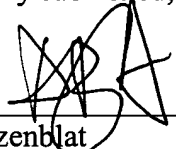
Applicant submits that *Musgrave* does not teach, or even suggest, "an identification request device for generating a pair of the public key and a private key for a user who inputs sampling information that serves as person identification data of a person requesting the public key certificate, and sending the public key, the private key and the sampling information to a person identification certificate authority", as recited by amended claim 1. As discussed, for example, on page 174 of the present application, a user that wants to generate a request for issuing a PKC can input sampling data (such as fingerprint data) to an identification request device. The identification request device then generates a pair of the public and private keys for the user who input the sampling data. As *Musgrave* does not disclose this feature, Applicant submits that the claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2-10, is in condition for allowance.

Applicant also submits that amended claims 11, 20, and 22, as well as dependent claims 12-19 and 21, are also allowable for the same reasons as discussed for claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: 
David Rozenblat
Registration No. 47,044
SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL LLP
P.O. Box 061080
Wacker Drive Station, Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-1080
(312) 876-8000